

# BILLING PARISH COUNCIL

Established 1894

**Serving Bellinge, Ecton Brook, Great Billing and Little Billing**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30pm  
ON MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2017  
AT THE BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING**

**PRESENT** Councillor J. Marlow (Chairman)  
Councillors Mrs C. Worthington, D. Brede, Rev. R. Burbidge, J. Clements,  
P. Henesey, D. Nash, N. Nickason, S. Rockall, S. Ward

**Also Present:** Mrs. S. Harris (Clerk to the Council)  
C. Campling (Green Space Manager)  
Cllr. A. Kilbride (NCC & NBC)  
Michelle Aveyard (BCH) - Part  
Damian Lang (Highway Warden)  
Three Parishioners

		<b>Action</b>
<b>97</b>	<b><i>Apologies</i></b>	
97.1	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Mrs Chaggar (ill), M. Pearson (holiday) and from Cllr. N. Nickason for his late arrival at 8.00 pm due to an earlier meeting. Apologies were also received from Sarah Oakes (Neighbourhood Warden).	
<b>98</b>	<b><i>Minutes</i></b>	
98.1	The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2017 (Folio Nos. 046/2017 – 050/2017) were approved and signed as a true record.	
<b>99</b>	<b><i>Declarations of Interest</i></b>	
99.1	There were none.	
<b>100</b>	<b><i>Public Forum</i></b>	
100.1	Mr Peter Stevenson said he was very concerned about speeding traffic on Little Billing Way and would like to see speed cameras in operation there. Michelle Aveyard suggested collecting registration numbers of offending vehicles and passing them to the local SCT. Cllr. Rockall will attempt to obtain a direct email address for the Traffic Team which he will pass to the Clerk.	<b>SR</b>
<b>101</b>	<b><i>Reports from Outside Agencies, etc.</i></b>	
101.1	Cllr. Kilbride reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A visit had been made to view the road surface in Penfold Drive and Chantry Close but unfortunately he was advised it still did not meet the criteria for re-surfacing.</li> <li>➤ He had that day attended the Public Consultation regarding Northampton Gateway at the Hilton Hotel, Collingtree. Although this does not directly impact on the Parish he urged everyone to view the consultation at <a href="http://www.northampton-gateway.co.uk">www.northampton-gateway.co.uk</a></li> <li>➤ Candidates are still required for the Standards Committee.</li> </ul>	<b>ALL</b>
101.2	Damian Lang, Highway Warden reported that although he had been advised that vegetation would be cut back on Great Billing Way today this had not yet been done. Cllr. Kilbride said he understood this was in hand and would be completed shortly, together with other cutting back required in the area. It was understood that companies tendering for the contract currently held by Enterprise had now been short-listed to two contenders.	

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<b>102</b>	<b>Planning</b>																																																																																		
102.1	The following determinations had been received from NBC: <b>N/2017/0903</b> – 9 Horsemoor Square, Ecton Brook – Additional second floor accommodation and raise roof height to be in line with neighbouring property. <b>APPROVED.</b> <b>N/2017/1015</b> – 59 Russet Drive, Little Billing – Extension and conversion of double garage into Granny Annexe and associated external works. <b>APPROVED.</b>																																																																																		
<b>103</b>	<b>Finance</b>																																																																																		
103.1	The list of Accounts for Approval for Payment had been circulated to all members. RESOLVED payment be made as per the following:																																																																																		
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103.2	A copy of the schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to budget for the half-year to 30.09.17 had been forwarded to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																																																																		
103.3	A copy of the Accounts and Bank Reconciliation for the half-year to 30.09.17 had been circulated to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																																																																		
103.4	Cllr. Clements said he had viewed the leaf blower used by the GSM and agreed that this was of the type required for use in Little Billing. However he suggested that instead of purchasing an additional blower that this could be borrowed when needed. This was agreed.																																																																																		
103.5	Request for additional funding from Bellinge Pre-School. Unfortunately Cllr. Mrs Chaggar was not in attendance but Cllr. Nash advised that he understood that the pre-school had written to Toby Birch at Community Spaces but to date had not received a reply. It was unanimously agreed that the costs involved in this work should be met by Community Spaces. Held over to next meeting.																																																																																		

		<b>Action</b>
<b>103</b>	<b><i>Finance (Continued)</i></b>	
103.6	Cllr. Henesey reported that at the recent meeting in Ecton Brook it was agreed that the group would in future be known as Ecton Brook Community Group. Ken Winter was appointed as Chairman and Sally Jordan as Secretary. It was hoped to have a Christmas tree in the Square but a suitable site still had to be agreed. It was emphasised to Cllr. Henesey that funding for specific projects would need to be approved at a Council meeting prior to any purchases.	
103.7	The GSM reported that he had experienced great difficulty in mowing due to the excessive growth of grass recently as his present mower could not cope – in fact he had to use a strimmer to cut large areas. He suggested that an additional mower that could cope with this should possibly be purchased in the future. Held over for the time being.	
103.8	A meeting was arranged to discuss the proposed budget for 2018/19 for 7.00 pm on Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2017 in the parish office at the pavilion. The Clerk asked Councillors to let her have details of any projects they would like to be considered for inclusion in this budget by the November PC meeting latest.	<b>ALL</b>
<b>104</b>	<b><i>Other Matters</i></b>	
104.1	Website. Three quotations had now been received for alternative hosting and maintenance of the website. The Clerk recommended that as all quotations were very similar in cost that Yambo, the company who designed and host our HLF website be appointed. The cost would be £420 per annum. RESOLVED this be approved.	<b>Clerk</b>
104.2	Great Billing War Memorial. The Catholic church has now had the hedge cut back and the GSM will ensure the whole area looks good ready for Remembrance Sunday. Additional quotations for the repair/renovation of the paved area are still awaited.	<b>GSM</b>
104.3	Remembrance Sunday. Wreaths have been ordered and delivery awaited. The service at Great Billing will take place at 11.00 pm – road closure permission has been obtained and it was RESOLVED the Chairman would lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council. The service at Little Billing will take place at 12.00 noon and it was RESOLVED that Michael Clasper would once again be asked to lay the wreath there on behalf of the council.	<b>Clerk</b>
104.4	The annual inspection had been carried out on the parish-owned playground and a copy of the report forwarded to all members. After discussion it was RESOLVED that the report be accepted. The Council understand there are risks but they are all low risks and these will be closely monitored in the future.	
104.5	December Meeting. RESOLVED that the date of the December meeting be brought forward by one week to Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December as this will be the last week of the present GSM's employment due to outstanding leave entitlement.	
<b>105</b>	<b><i>Updates</i></b>	
105.1	Transfer of Belling Field has still not been completed. The Clerk has been advised that a further advertisement is to be placed. Cllr. Kilbride is to check on the current status.	<b>AK</b>
105.2	Replacement GSM. Interviews took place on 25 <sup>th</sup> September. The calibre of the applicants was extremely high and the Clerk and four Councillors involved had an extremely difficult decision to make. The Parish Council are delighted to report that Paul Marks, a local Ecton Brook resident, has accepted the post and will be starting his employment on 1 <sup>st</sup> November.	

		Action
<b>105</b>	<b>Updates (Continued)</b>	
105.3	On reflection it was felt that changing the job title from Green Space Manager would cause quite a few problems, especially as far as the email address was concerned. After discussion it was RESOLVED that for the time being the title would be maintained.	
105.4	Updating of Parish Owned Street Lighting. Due to holidays a meeting is still to be arranged between the Chairman, Clerk and Cllr. Brede to discuss further. It is hoped this will take place within the next two weeks.	<b>Chair/ DB/ Clerk</b>
<b>106</b>	<b>Leisure &amp; Recreation</b>	
106.1	The GSM reported that grass cutting has been an absolute nightmare recently due to the weather conditions. He is concentrating on tying up loose ends ready for the start of his replacement.	
106.2	Lt. Billing Pocket Park. The following report had been received from Michael Clasper: "A volunteering session took place at Little Billing Pocket Park on Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September. Four volunteers cut the grass on some verges and the picnic area. Bench bases and both footpaths were blown clean, litter was collected and the area north of the orchard was further strimmed and cleared of undergrowth and scrub".	
<b>107</b>	<b>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</b>	
107.1	Cllr. Nash reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The hanging baskets in Bellinge have now been taken down and will be replanted next year. He was extremely pleased to note that staff at the Co-op had contributed towards hanging baskets that have been hung outside the store.</li> <li>➤ Bellinge Community House AGM will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 6.00 pm</li> <li>➤ He understands that some residents did not receive their newsletters.</li> <li>➤ He reminded everyone of the health walks held each Monday.</li> <li>➤ The Macmillan Coffee Morning was not so well attended this year but there appeared to be far more similar events being held.</li> </ul>	
107.2	Cllr. Henesey reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The steps in the underpass by St. Andrews School were in a very bad condition and this is being dealt with. There have also been reports of vandalism in the same area.</li> <li>➤ He is receiving complaints with regard to drug taking and dealing in Ecton Brook, which he believes is taking place in the Mushroom Field Road area, Pennycress Place and the field beyond.</li> </ul>	
107.3	Cllr. Mrs Worthington queried the date of the next community litter picks and was advised that these will take place on Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> November. Cllr. Kilbride cautioned that should any needles be discovered these must be removed by professionals.	
107.4	Cllr. Nickason said there would appear to be an increase in owners not cleaning up after their dogs in Little Billing, and that this always seems to get worse with the onset of the winter months. He has advised Sarah Oakes.	
107.5	Cllr. Brede reported that since the installation of the picnic benches and tables in LB Pocket park there would appear to be parties being held there. He had attended the NCALC AGM on Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> October. There were complaints of lack of funding and lack of policing.	
107.6	Cllr. Rockall commented that he understood there had been some complaints regarding noise from Bipin Brook.	

		<b>Action</b>
<b>107</b>	<b><i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere (Continued)</i></b>	
107.7	The Chairman said he would be attending the meeting at Wootton Hall with the Police Commissioner on Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October. One of the speakers is to give a talk regarding travellers.	
<b>108</b>	<b><i>Date of Next Meetings and Closure</i></b>	
108.1	There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.58 pm. Dates of next Meetings: Nov. PC Meeting – 7.30 pm Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2017 at the Bernard Weston Pavilion. Budget Meeting – 7.00 pm Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2017 in the Pavilion Office. Dec. PC Meeting – 7.30 pm Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2017 at the Bernard Weston Pavilion.	